AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace Paragraphs [0031] and [0041] with the following paragraphs rewritten in amendment format:

[0031] Link transmitter 302 takes a packet 325 from one of the plurality of logical channels 318 for transmission to link receiver 304. In an embodiment, link transmitter 302 selects from which of the plurality of logical channels 318 to draw the packet 325. In other words, it is link transmitter 302 that decides how to allocate plurality of data credits 320 among the plurality of logical channels 318 to decide from which of the plurality of logical channels 318 to draw a packet 325 for transmission to link receiver 304. Since link transmitter 302 knows how much traffic (i.e. how many packets 325) are queued up on each of plurality of logical channels 318, link transmitter 302 is in the best position to know how best to allocate plurality of data credits 320. This has the advantage of allocating plurality of data credits 320 more efficiently among plurality of logical channels 318 as opposed to the prior art method of allowing link receiver 304 to allocate plurality of data credits 320 among plurality of logical channels 318.

[0041] Once free buffer pool 330 has additional data credits 334 allocated to it as explained above, link receiver 304 then forwards flow control packet 332 to link transmitter 302 so that the additional data credits 334 can be used to update plurality of data credits 320. In one embodiment, if free buffer pool 330 has additional data credits 334 allocated and reverse link 314 is idle, flow control packet 332 can be automatically sent to link transmitter 302. As an example of an embodiment, if link receiver flow control algorithm 328 detects that free buffer pool 330 contains additional data credits

334 and that reverse link 314 is idle, then link receiver flow control algorithm 328 transmits flow control packet 332 to link transmitter 302. This embodiment has the advantage, when coupled with scheduled transmissions of flow control packet 332, of increasing the odds that link transmitter 302 has a full supply of plurality of data credits 320 so that link transmitter 302 can sustain the longest possible traffic burst of packets 325 before needing additional data credits 334. This maximizes the ability of link transmitter 302 to handle traffic restraints for a given number of plurality of data credits 320 (i.e. empty portion of plurality of receiver buffers 324 allocated to a given one of plurality of logical channels 318).